

**Edwards: Hearne Police Department to Receive Local Law Enforcement Funding from Stimulus**

(Washington, D.C.) – United States Representative Chet Edwards announced today that the City of Hearne Police Department will receive \$11,225 in funding from the Stimulus legislation signed by the President on February 17th. These funds will be distributed through the Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) program to the Hearne Police Department.

“Ensuring the safety of our communities is one of my top priorities,” said Edwards. “These funds will help our sheriff’s office and police departments hire more officers, upgrade equipment, and keep our streets and law enforcement personnel safe.”

The JAG program allows local governments to engage in a broad range of activities to prevent and control crime and improve their criminal justice system. It provides counties and cities wide flexibility to prioritize their needs and place justice funds where they are most needed. The grant award may be used to help pay for new personnel, law enforcement programs, prevention programs, multi-jurisdictional drug task forces, or technology improvement projects.

“Creating jobs and protecting our families from criminals are positive uses of federal stimulus funds,” concluded Edwards.

This recent set of JAG grants will provide the City of Hearne with \$11,225. Hearne will use these funds to hire additional man power, buy new recording systems, and service equipment.

Hearne Police Chief Gene Wilganowski said, “Thank you for all the assistance you have provided in obtaining stimulus funding for the Hearne Police Department. This assistance is highly appreciated and welcomed as the City of Hearne is limited in resources of both manpower and funding. Please know the funding will be put to use in providing our community with quality safety and security through the ability to obtain additional man power as needed for special events and the funding will contribute to the safety of patrol officers by the addition of new recording systems and service equipment. Ultimately the primary mission of the Hearne Police Department is the preservation of the peace and dignity of our community. The acquisition of the stimulus funding will readily contribute to the continuing administration of the mission.”